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Docket No.

2373

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: Zhang

MAY 26 2004

Serial No.: 09/580,884

Examiner: Sanders, K. **OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

Filed: May 30, 2000

Art Unit: 1714

For: Bioabsorbable Blends and Surgical Articles Therefrom

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademark
Washington, DC. 20231RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 2, 2001, in connection with the above referenced application, kindly substitute the claim as follows and consider the following remarks.

In The Claims

Cancel claims 9 and 17.

Substitute the following claims.

1. (Substitute) A blend comprising at least one bioabsorbable component and a cyanoacrylate component wherein the bioabsorbable component is selected from the group consisting of glycolide, trimethylene carbonate, dioxanone, caprolactone, alkylene glycols, esteramides, and copolymers thereof.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested. Substitute claim 1 has been submitted and claims 9 and 17 has been cancelled. Claims 1-8, 10-16 and 18 are currently pending. A page showing additions and deletions in substitute claim 1 is attached hereto.

Response to rejection of claims 1, 9-11, and 13-17 under U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by Regula (U.S. 5,550,172).

Applicants respectfully submit that Regula does not disclose every element of presently pending claims 1, 9-11, and 13-17 at least for the following reasons. Regula does not disclose a